IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A gas cooking appliance, comprising:

at least one gas cooking element, said cooking element including a control knob operable to regulate a gas flow to said cooking element; and

a gas lockout valve assembly in line with said at least one gas cooking element, said gas lockout valve assembly comprising a valve and a single digit rpm motor configured to ~~rotate an actuation shaft in said valve to~~ open or close the valve,

wherein said control knob remains operable to regulate gas flow to said cooking element during a power loss and without power backup when said gas lockout valve is open during said power loss.

2. (original) A gas cooking appliance in accordance with Claim 1 further comprising a rotatable cam adapted to indicate a position of said valve.

3. (original) A gas cooking appliance in accordance with Claim 2 further comprising at least one microswitch in communication with said cam.

4. (original) A gas cooking appliance in accordance with Claim 3 further comprising a controller coupled to said motor.

5. (original) A gas cooking appliance in accordance with Claim 4 wherein said controller comprises a microprocessor.

6. (original) A gas cooking appliance in accordance with Claim 1 wherein said at least one gas cooking element comprises a plurality of gas cooking elements, said appliance further comprising a gas manifold connected between said gas lockout valve assembly and said plurality of gas cooking elements.



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7. (currently amended) A gas fired cooktop comprising:

at least one gas burner;

at least one control knob associated with said at least one burner; and

a motorized gas lockout valve coupled to said at least one gas burner and establishing a gas supply connection thereto, said valve positionable ~~in~~ between an open position whereby said control knob is effective to operate said burner and a gas lockout position, thereby rendering said control knob ineffective to operate said burner, and

wherein said control knob remains effective to operate said burner during a power loss and without power backup when said gas lockout valve is in said open position during said power loss.

8. (original) A gas fired cooktop in accordance with Claim 7 wherein said motorized gas lockout valve comprises:

a valve;

a motor coupled to and in driving relation to said valve, said motor opening and closing a flow path through said valve; and

a cam coupled to said valve and indicating a state of said valve.

9. (original) A gas fired cooktop in accordance with Claim 8 further comprising a switch indicating a position of said cam.

10. (original) A gas fired cooktop in accordance with Claim 9 further comprising a microprocessor coupled to said switch, said microprocessor configured to indicate a state of said switch to a user based upon a position of said cam.



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11. (original) A gas cooktop in accordance with Claim 7 further comprising a gas manifold coupled between said at least one said burner and said gas lockout valve.

12. (currently amended) A gas range comprising:

a cabinet;

a plurality of gas heating elements coupled to said cabinet, each of said plurality of heating elements including a control knob operable to regulate a gas flow to said heating element;

a gas manifold within said cabinet and configured to distribute gas to each of said heating elements; and

a motorized gas lockout assembly coupled in line with said gas manifold, said motorized gas lockout assembly ~~including a valve having an actuation shaft that is rotatably~~ positionable to permit or deny gas flow to said gas manifold, and

wherein each said control knob remains operable to regulate gas flow to a respective one of said heating elements during a power loss and without power backup when said gas lockout valve is positioned to permit gas flow during said power loss.

13. (original) A gas range in accordance with Claim 12 further comprising a microprocessor coupled to said motorized lockout valve assembly, said microprocessor configured to sense a position of said valve assembly.

14. (original) A gas range in accordance with Claim 13 further comprising a display configured to indicate a state of said valve assembly.

15. (original) A gas range in accordance with Claim 13 further comprising a switch coupled to said microprocessor, said switch actuated by said valve assembly as said valve assembly is positioned.

16. (original) A gas range in accordance with Claim 15, said gas lockout valve comprising a cam configured to actuate said switch.

17. (original) A gas range in accordance with Claim 12, said motorized gas lockout valve assembly comprising a single digit rpm motor.

18. (original) A gas range in accordance with Claim 12, said valve comprising a plug valve.

19. (currently amended) A gas range comprising:

a cabinet;

a plurality of gas heating elements coupled to said cabinet;

a gas manifold within said cabinet and configured to distribute gas to each of said heating elements; and

a gas lockout assembly coupled in line with said gas manifold, said gas lockout assembly comprising:

a valve;

a motor coupled to and in driving relation to said valve, said motor ~~rotating an actuation shaft in said valve to open and close~~ opening and closing a flow path through said valve to permit or prevent gas flow to said gas manifold, and wherein said valve remains open to permit gas flow to said gas manifold during a power loss and without power backup when said valve is open when said power loss occurs; and

a cam coupled to said valve and indicating a position of said valve.

20. (original) A gas range in accordance with Claim 19 wherein said valve is a plug valve.